

From: Susan Dillard
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 10:30pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

11720 81st Avenue NE

Marysville, WA 98271

January 23, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft

US Department of Justice

950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 205301

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

Although not a member of technology industry, I would like to voice my thoughts on finalizing the Microsoft anti-trust case. To claim that Microsoft is operating as a monopoly, with apparently so many competitors available that they can bring on this lawsuit, comes off as an overblown attack on a company that has succeeded through consumer support, not monopolistic practices.

As I've seen in the telephone industry, there are many more monopolies causing much more harm to the consumer than Microsoft has ever done. Now that a settlement has been reached, the conditions seem highly favorable to the Justice Department, even surpassing some of the initial complaints. So, with so many other distractions of greater importance on the government's plate, it would seem time to finally end this process.

With regular oversight of a technical committee to ensure compliance, Microsoft will provide ample opportunities for their rivals to succeed with this deal, including more flexible configuration of the Windows platform, access to its internal source code and licensing of its intellectual property. Please move forward with this process and allow these companies to go compete in this new environment without further intervention.

Sincerely,

Susan Dillard

CC: fin@mobilizationoffice.com@inetgw